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(71) Applicant: MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL
CO., LTD.
Kadoma-shi, Osaka 571-0050 (JP)

(72) Inventors:
• Matsumoto, Takao
Izumishi 594 (JP)
• Yoneda, Aki
Neyagawashi 572 (JP)

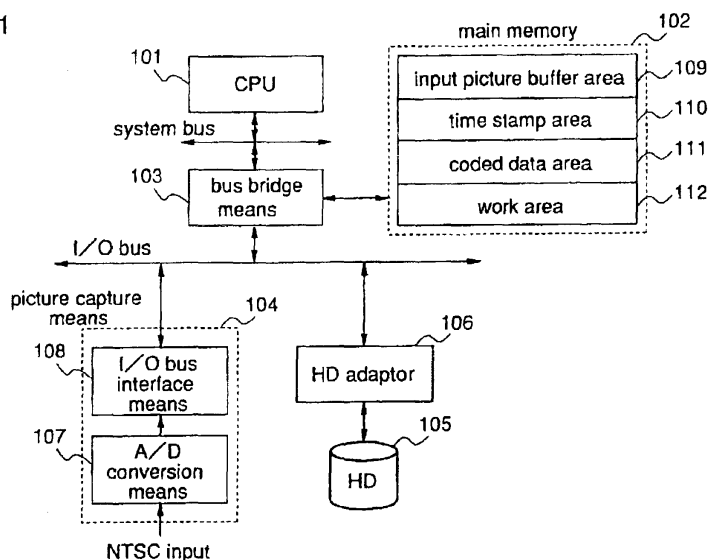
(74) Representative: Kügele, Bernhard et al
NOVAPAT INTERNATIONAL SA,
9, Rue du Valais
1202 Genève (CH)

(54) Video data coding method and apparatus

(57) A method of coding a moving picture in which the moving picture is input and coded to produce coded data comprises a picture capturing step for capturing a picture at time $n \cdot \Delta t$ (n : integer Δt : time interval) of an input moving picture as a still picture and outputting still picture data; a time information producing step for outputting time information corresponding to time $n \cdot \Delta t$ when the moving picture is captured as the still picture in the picture capturing step; and a coding step for se-

quentially capturing and coding the still picture data output in the picture capturing step, computing a time interval between two continuous still pictures in capturing time of the captured still picture data using the time information output in the time information producing step, and when the computed time interval is $m \cdot \Delta t$, (m : integer, $m \geq 2$), inserting coded data corresponding to ($m-1$) or less still pictures between coded data and coded data of the two still pictures so that the time interval between coded still pictures is set to be constant.

Fig.1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 11 8919

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	US 5 416 521 A (CHUJOH TAKESHI ET AL) 16 May 1995 (1995-05-16) * column 3, line 53 - column 4, line 28 * * column 7, line 3 - column 7, line 48 *	1-15	H04N7/26
A	EP 0 721 284 A (DAE WOO ELECTRONICS CO LTD) 10 July 1996 (1996-07-10) * abstract * * column 2, line 52 - column 3, line 3; figures 1,2,4 *	1-15	
A	DECOTIGNIE P ET AL: "AN IMAGE CODING TECHNIQUE COMBINING 3/4 FRAME SKIP AND INTER-INTRA-FRAME DCT" PROCEEDINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON HDTV AND BEYOND, NL, AMSTERDAM, ELSEVIER, vol. WORKSHOP 4, page 431-438 XP000379980 * page 431, paragraph 4 - page 436, paragraph 1 *	2-4,7-9, 12-14	
A	WO 96 10889 A (CIRRUS LOGIC INC) 11 April 1996 (1996-04-11) * abstract; claims 22-29 *	1-15	
A	US 5 528 238 A (NICKERSON BRIAN) 18 June 1996 (1996-06-18) * column 3, line 55 - column 4, line 13; figure 12 * * column 14, line 47 - column 15, line 50 *	1-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6) H04N
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 20 January 2000	Examiner Schoeyer, M
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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